



LITERATURE

terest which the scenes of the play lent to the illustrations, has also been the recipient of another compliment, which must be gratifying to the author: "Ben-Hur," it appears, fell into the hands of a Greek scholar who, on his own confession, never reads novels, but who was so captivated by the great tale of the Messiah that he immediately made application to translate the book into modern Greek. This is now being done; and so the book makes its way, conquering new worlds for itself, in one language after another.

Sir William Martin Conway, who wrote "The Bolivian Andes, a Record of Climbing and Exploration," which the Harpers publish this month, holds the world's record for mountain climbing. In 1891 he explored the Himalayas, crossing a pass 25,000 feet high, and in the course of his travels surveyed 2,000 miles of mountains. Later he made an extensive journey in the Bolivian Andes, taking many wonderful photographs and embodying the results in his book. Last summer this indefatigable traveler visited Lake Titicaca, the most elevated of South American lakes, for the purpose of making an authoritative report upon the results of his journey. Sir William was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge. He is still in the prime of life, and a man of most agreeable address.

The behavior of the present czar of Russia in the current crisis is disappointing to those Americans who were disposed to admire him because of his apparent intention to perform his duty in the right way. His recent attitude towards the student disturbances seems to American eyes ill-calculated and dangerous to himself. It is not generally known that on two occasions since the year 1880 Russia has been on the verge of becoming a constitutional monarchy. In view of this fact, it would seem that Nicholas II, if he desires to retain his autocratic power, should use it in a way more agreeable to the present demands of the Russian people. More and more the Russian rulers must break through the stupid conventions of the past. In this connection it is interesting to note that the Grand-Duke Alexander has published an article from his own pen—and this is the first time that any member of the czar's family has put his views on any subject into print. The article will appear in a book called "All the World's Fighting Ships," which is about to issue from the press of Harper & Brothers.

The British Museum has just been enriched by the addition of a new edition of the "Tribulations of a Princess," which Harper & Brothers have just issued. Whether the interest in the book has been caused by the mysterious unknown character of the writer, or by the fact that this author had already written the popular "Martyrdom of an Empress," or by the universal fascination exerted upon people generally by accounts of the inner life of royalties, it would be difficult to determine. "The Tribulations of a Princess" is announced as an autobiography, told in the style of a romance. The adventures of a spirited woman of quality are charmingly related, and the reader has the additional satisfaction of knowing that it is all true.

A correspondent wrote the other day to Messrs. Harper & Brothers, with reference to Zola's "Labor," which they have just published. "May I commend your good taste in the binding of this novel, as contrasted with that of the English edition, which has just come into my hands? Without wishing to be rude or horrid to our English countrymen, I think that I understand why the English people have no fancy for any but the plainest covers on their books, when the attempt to use bright colors results in the gaudy and tasteless cover design of the English edition of 'Labor'—called 'Work' in England. I can heartily sympathize with the English public, for that is the sort of thing that is foisted on them by a bright and attractive binding. And yet one of the leading English publishing firms is responsible for the cover of 'Work,' which in its suggestive value of yellow-velvet, and in design, representing conventionalized flowers, which 'toll not, neither do they spin,' is suggestive of anything but the gospel of work."

There is a society somewhere in this country called "The Alice Society," in which the ceremony of initiation requires that the following sentence shall be learned in five minutes from verbal dictation: "Never imagine yourself not to be otherwise than what it might appear to others that you were; or might have been; but never allow yourself to be misled by the appearance of things." We submit to "The Alice Society," by the way, the interesting information that Messrs. Harper & Brothers have in preparation an edition of "Alice in Wonderland," to be richly illustrated by the facile and funny pen of Peter Newell. How the society will welcome this Newellized edition of the classic we dare not say!

Mr. Will N. Harben, author of "Westerfield" (Harpers), wrote "Almost Paradise," the theme of which is John Strange Winter said: "It is what I have always tried to do, and failed." There is no theology, however, in "Westerfield," which depicts a Georgia rural life, including its moonshiners and mooning.

McMaster's Primary History of the United States is a new book by John Bach McMaster, professor of American history in the University of Pennsylvania. The high reputation of McMaster as a historian, and the phenomenal success of his school history of the United States, are sufficient guarantee of the excellence of the present book. It contains work for one school year, and gives a good general knowledge of so much of our history as every American should know; while for those who are to pursue the study further, it will lay a thorough foundation for subsequent work. Among its distinctive features we note that it is short, and leaves unasked such questions as are beyond the understanding of children; that in a simple and interesting style it affords a vigorous narrative of events and an accurate portrayal of the daily life and customs of the different periods; and that it is well proportioned, touching on all matters of real importance for the elementary study of the founding and building of our country.

Our history is grouped about a few central ideas, which are easily comprehended by children, and which serve to impress upon them the fact that the story of our country is something more than a mere dry chronology. The illustrations, which are numerous and attractive, are historically authentic, and show well known scenes and incidents and the progress of civilization. The maps are remarkably clear and well executed, and give the location of every important place mentioned in the text.

Altogether this seems to us to meet admirably the need for a primary history which is short, interesting, well illustrated and specially fitted for holding the attention of younger pupils.

It is not often that a book written by an anonymous author goes to press with its third edition before the book is

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ACHIEVEMENTS ARE OFTEN THE RESULT OF MANY FAILURES.

A Talk of Interest to the Young by One Who Has Had Both Bad and Good Fortune.

"Success rarely, if ever, comes until after many failures," said Mr. Emory T. Hubbard. "The failures we do not hear of, but the successes make men famous."

Mr. Hubbard is a man who, after many failures, at last achieved success and he talks interestingly about it. He is a trained nurse and masseur, living at No. 139 Madison street, Pasadena, Cal. To a reporter he said:

"I had almost given up hope, but finally I attained that for which I sought—health. I suffered from a very bad case of rheumatism, and as a result my nervous system broke down. I became all run down, weak and exhausted. My liver was bad and my blood very much out of order."

"In the latter part of 1895, after five doctors had been treating me for as many years without doing me any good, I saw an advertisement in the paper and began taking Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. When I had taken half the second box I found I was getting better and I kept on until I was cured. I always keep the pills by me and, whenever a long, hard case has caused me to feel run down, I take them to brace me up. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People did wonders for me, and I am confident they will do as much for others who are troubled as I was."

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even published. This has been the remarkable record of "The Tribulations of a Princess," which Harper & Brothers have just issued. Whether the interest in the book has been caused by the mysterious unknown character of the writer, or by the fact that this author had already written the popular "Martyrdom of an Empress," or by the universal fascination exerted upon people generally by accounts of the inner life of royalties, it would be difficult to determine. "The Tribulations of a Princess" is announced as an autobiography, told in the style of a romance. The adventures of a spirited woman of quality are charmingly related, and the reader has the additional satisfaction of knowing that it is all true.

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Whitecaps, with striking realism. Mr. Harben, like most literary men, has been in training for some years in order to acquire the vigor and fitness with which his latest and best book is written. For two years he was one of the editors of the Youth's Companion. He then went to London, and for another year applied himself to study in the British Museum, writing meanwhile, and coming in touch with nearly all the leading literatures of England. Amongst his ancestors And you must remember Daniel Boone.

PRIDE OF ANCESTRY.

Not Always Safe to Trace Your Forebears Back for Many Years.

Not long since an acquaintance of mine said to me with an air of pride: "I can trace back my ancestry to my great-great-grandfather's great-great-grandfather. He was a cavalier and fought under Charles I."

"And what does that amount to?" I answered him. "That was the sixteenth generation before you, and in that generation you had 128 forefathers and 128 foremothers, just 1,256 of your ancestry in that generation. Among the 128 of whom you have never heard there may have been several who were hanged for murder, burglarly or sheep stealing, for all that you know or can hope to know. And you must remember, too, that you had 64 foremothers in the seventh generation and 32 in the fifth, all of them nearer to you than that cavalier, you must account for them as well."

Yet of course one should be glad that his near lineal and collateral kin have been and are honest men and virtuous women, but a line must be drawn somewhere, and that not many generations back, beyond which there is no such thing as good birth or high birth, because it is all both good and bad. When any one boasts to boast that he comes of a "long line of proud ancestry," he can be contradicted at once, because there is no such thing as a "long line of ancestry;" one's ancestry cannot be represented by a "line," but by an inverted pyramid. Every one of us is descended from one, but of many hundreds and thousands of long lines of ancestry, some of them proud perhaps, and others with no cause for pride, but rather cause for shame. It will not do to try to follow them all too far back. Some of the many will surely lead to a dungeon of the Newgate prison, or it may go to the Tyburn gallows tree. We cannot pin our faith to the one cavalier and ignore all the others, as my friend was trying to do, because it is nature's plan that all should be mixed up in each one of us—Leslie's Popular Monthly.

A Cure for Summer Complaint.

Summer complaint is unusually prevalent among children this season. A well developed case in the writer's family was cured last week by the timely use of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy—one of the best patent medicines manufactured and which is always kept on hand at the houses of physicians. This is not a "cure" as a free puff for the company, who do not advertise with us, but to benefit little sufferers who may be afflicted with this ailment. No family should be without a bottle of this medicine in the house, especially in summer time.—Lansing, Iowa, Journal.

MUSIC LOVERS.

All who desire information of the latest, etc. of Salt Lake's music teachers, should consult the Musicians' Directory, published on the Dramatic and Musical page of the Saturday News.

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